

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/FR2003/002057



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference B 14025.3 PV	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/FR2003/002057	International filing date (day/month/year) 02 juillet 2003 (02.07.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 05 juillet 2002 (05.07.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H01L 21/331		
Applicant COMMISSARIAT A L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.
<input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).
These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report
II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority
III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention
V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited
VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application
VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 21 janvier 2004 (21.01.2004)	Date of completion of this report 06 July 2004 (06.07.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FR2003/002057

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- the international application as originally filed
 the description:

pages _____ 1-27 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____ , filed with the demand
 pages _____ , filed with the letter of _____

- the claims:

pages _____ 1-17 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____ , as amended (together with any statement under Article 19)
 pages _____ , filed with the demand
 pages _____ , filed with the letter of _____

- the drawings:

pages _____ 1/3-3/3 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____ , filed with the demand
 pages _____ , filed with the letter of _____

- the sequence listing part of the description:

pages _____ , as originally filed
 pages _____ , filed with the demand
 pages _____ , filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
 the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
 the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FR 03/02057

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-17	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-17	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-17	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

The present application relates to an electronic device having an active portion in a semiconductor thin film and a substrate consisting of an electrically conducting material. A carrier recombination region is provided between the substrate and the thin film, thereby also ensuring an ohmic electrical contact between the substrate and the thin film. This construction simultaneously reduces ON-state losses and ON -> OFF switching losses in the device. Two different methods for manufacturing such a device are also disclosed.

None of the documents cited in the international search report mentions these two problems, let alone a possible solution thereto. Document EP-A-0 971 418 describes a device with reduced ON-state losses, obtained by including the conducting regions in the front surface of the substrate to reduce the resistivity thereof (see figures 5 and 6). The resulting device is completely different from the device according to the application.

The device according to document EP-A-1 017 093 might solve the problems addressed in the application, although said problems are not mentioned. But the solution, which resides in the use of a minimum thickness, leads to a new

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FR 03/02057

problem, namely mechanical yield, since a thin substrate is very fragile. The solution provided in the present application solves this problem as well.

The subject matter of document WO 01/18853 relates to an electrically conducting bond provided between two semiconductor elements. There is no example of a construction having an electrically conducting substrate and a carrier recombination region. Document US-A-3 925 808 relates to a welded bond provided between an electronic device and an electrode.

Additional observations

The features following the expression "in particular", in claims 7, 14 and 15, cannot define preferred features of the device or the methods. These features should be included in new dependent claims.